U.S. Patent Application Serial No.: 10/591,788 Attorney Docket No.: 031187-00002

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend pending claims as indicated below. The following is a listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

- 1. (Currently Amended) The A filtering device consisting of a body filled with a filtering material and having at least one outlet in a base of the body, a lid provided with [[a]] water inlet inlets and [[an]] air outlet outlets and at least one fixing means disposed between the body and the lid, characterized in that the fixing means has at least one valve.
- 2. (Currently Amended) The filtering device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the shape of the valve corresponds to $1 \le L_p / L_o \le 2$, where: L_p the length along the perimeter; L_o the distance between two end points length of the valve.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The filtering device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that [[the]] a width of the valve increases at least two times when liquid or gas flows through it.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The filtering device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the width of the valve corresponds to $0.1\underline{L}_{0}[[L]] \le d \le 3$ L₀, where: d the width of the valve; L₀ the length of the valve.

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- 5. (Original) The filtering device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the body is provided with a cuff configured to sealing providing high specific pressure at the top part of it.
- 6. (Original) The filtering device as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the cuff is cone-shaped and comprises at least one collar on the external surface thereof.
- 7. (Original) The filtering device as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the cuff has from one to five collars on the external surface thereof.
- 8. (Original) The filtering device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the cuff has preferably from one to three collars.
- 9. (Original) The filtering device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the lid has a cuff configured to provide sealing providing high specific pressure at the top part of it.
- 10. (Original) The filtering device as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that the cuff is embodied in the form of a cone and comprises at least one collar on the external surface thereof.
- 11. (Original) The filtering device as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the cuff has from one to five collars on the external surface thereof.

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12. (Currently Amended) The filtering device as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the cuff has preferably from one to three collars.

13-15. (Canceled)